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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/723,854
Applicant : Tatsuya TSUKIDA et al
Filed : November 26, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3611
Docket No. : 03711/HG
Customer No.: 01933
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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Lori Valdes

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In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
AND STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are:

- (1) Copy of a communication dated September 1, 2004 (Search Report - 3 pages) issued from a foreign patent office in a counterpart European patent application;
- (2) Copy of the cited CA publication. The JP 07-117350 A cited in the Search Report is the laid-open publication of J. Pat. No. 3295746 B2 cited in the specification of the present application. J. Pat. No. 3295746 B2 and the English translation Abstract thereof was filed in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 26, 2003;

- (3) Form PTO/SB/08A. It is requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publication listed therein has been considered and made of record.
- (4) The cited publication is in the English language.

The cited publication is considered relevant or material to the patentability of the present invention in view of the citation thereof in said communication and for the reasons stated in said communication.


Said communication is in English, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in said communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the attached publication
be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,


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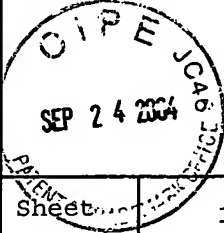
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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT 			Application Number		10/723,854	
			Filing Date		November 26, 2003	
			First Named Inventor		Tatsuya TSUKIDA et al	
			Group Art Unit		3611	
			Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number		03711/HG

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits*	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
		CA	2 446 827	A	SANWA NEWTEC CO	11-21-2002		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: September 24, 2004